

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A metallic product comprising:
 a metallic curved hollow member having a hollow cross section which comprises a thin wall portion and a thick wall portion which is thicker than the thin wall portion, the metallic curved hollow member being produced by bending a metallic straight hollow member produced by extrusion of aluminum material which is one of aluminum and aluminum alloy.
2. The metallic product as claimed in claim 1, in which the thick wall portion and the thin wall portion extend in a longitudinal direction of the metallic curved hollow member, in which the thick wall portion and the thin wall portion are sections formed by the extrusion, and in which the thick wall portion and the thin wall portion extend along a periphery of the hollow cross section of the metallic curved hollow member.
3. The metallic product as claimed in claim 2, in which the metallic straight hollow member has a hollow cross section which comprises a thin wall portion and a thick wall portion which is thicker than the thin wall portion, the thin wall portion and the thick wall portion extending along a periphery of the hollow cross section of the metallic straight hollow member.
4. The metallic product as claimed in claim 3, in which the metallic straight hollow member is formed into an eccentric pipe comprising an inner cylindrical surface and an outer cylindrical surface, the inner cylindrical surface being eccentric from the outer cylindrical surface.
5. The metallic product as claimed in claim 2, in which the thick wall portion of the metallic curved hollow member is shaped substantially into a box girder, and extends from a first corner to a second corner adjacent to the first corner along the periphery of the hollow cross section of the metallic curved hollow member.

1 6. A production process of forming a metallic curved hollow member, the process
2 comprising:

3 forming a metallic straight hollow member by extrusion of aluminum material
4 which is one of aluminum and aluminum alloy; and

5 bending the metallic straight hollow member into the metallic curved hollow
6 member, the metallic curved hollow member having a hollow cross section which
7 comprises a thin wall portion and a thick wall portion which is thicker than the thin
8 wall portion.

1 7. A metallic product comprising:

2 a metallic curved hollow member having a hollow cross section which
3 comprises a cross-shaped portion, the metallic curved hollow member being
4 produced by bending a metallic straight hollow member produced by extrusion of
5 aluminum material which is one of aluminum and aluminum alloy.

1 8. A production process of forming a metallic curved hollow member, the process
2 comprising:

3 forming a metallic straight hollow member by extrusion of aluminum material
4 which is one of aluminum and aluminum alloy; and

5 bending the metallic straight hollow member into the metallic curved hollow
6 member, the metallic curved hollow member having a hollow cross section which
7 comprises a cross-shaped portion.

1 9. A vehicular member construction comprising:

2 a pair of side members extending substantially in a fore-and-aft direction of a
3 vehicle and spaced apart from each other substantially in a widthwise direction of
4 the vehicle; and

5 a cross member for connecting the pair of the side members;

6 wherein at least one of the side member and the cross member has a hollow
7 cross section comprising:

8 a thin wall portion; and

9 a thick wall portion which is thicker than the thin wall portion.

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MB

a vehicle

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1 10. The vehicular member construction as claimed in claim 9, in which the at least
2 one of the side member and the cross member that has the hollow cross section
3 comprising the thick wall portion is produced by bending a metallic straight hollow
4 member produced by extrusion of aluminum material which is one of aluminum and
5 aluminum alloy.

1 11. The vehicular member construction as claimed in claim 10, in which the thick
2 wall portion and the thin wall portion extend in a longitudinal direction of the side
3 member, and in which the thick wall portion and the thin wall portion are sections
4 formed by the extrusion.

1 12. The vehicular member construction as claimed in claim 11, in which the
2 metallic straight hollow member has a hollow cross section which comprises a thin
3 wall portion and a thick wall portion which is thicker than the thin wall portion.

1 13. The vehicular member construction as claimed in claim 12, in which the
2 metallic straight hollow member is formed into an eccentric pipe comprising an
3 inner cylindrical surface and an outer cylindrical surface, a center of the inner
4 cylindrical surface being eccentric from a center of the outer cylindrical surface.

1 14. The vehicular member construction as claimed in claim 9, in which the side
2 member comprises a suspension link bracket for supporting a suspension link for
3 linking the side member and a wheel of the vehicle, the suspension link bracket
4 being mounted on the thick wall portion of the side member, the thick wall portion
5 being thicker than the thin wall portion of the side member.

1 15. The vehicular member construction as claimed in claim 9, in which the thick
2 wall portion that is thicker than the thin wall portion is formed through a hydraulic
3 forming method comprising the following sequential operations of:
4 bending a workpiece which is straight and hollow; and
5 pressing the workpiece so that the workpiece has a cross section which is
6 substantially rectangular in shape.

1 16. The vehicular member construction as claimed in claim 15, in which upper and
 2 lower dies used for the hydraulic forming method defines a cavity which is formed
 3 with an inner surface, and in which a gap defined between the workpiece and a
 4 unique portion of the inner surface of the cavity is greater than a gap defined
 5 between the workpiece and other portion of the inner surface other than the unique
 6 portion, the workpiece being of the at least one of the side member and the cross
 7 member.

1 17. A production process of forming a vehicular member construction, the process
 2 comprising:

3 forming a metallic straight hollow member by extrusion of aluminum material
 4 which is one of aluminum and aluminum alloy; and

5 bending the metallic straight hollow member into a metallic curved hollow
 6 member, the metallic curved hollow member having a hollow cross section which
 7 comprises a thin wall portion and a thick wall portion which is thicker than the thin
 8 wall portion.

1 18. A vehicular member construction comprising:

2 a pair of side members extending substantially in a fore-and-aft direction of a
 3 vehicle and spaced apart from each other substantially in a widthwise direction of
 4 the vehicle; and

5 a cross member for connecting the pair of the side members;

6 wherein at least one of the side member and the cross member has a hollow
 7 cross section comprising a cross-shaped portion.

1 19. The vehicular member as claimed in claim 18, in which the at least one of the
 2 side member and the cross member that has the hollow cross section comprising the
 3 cross-shaped portion is produced by bending a metallic straight hollow member
 4 produced by extrusion of aluminum material which is one of aluminum and
 5 ~~aluminum alloy~~

1 20. A production process of forming a vehicular member construction, the process
 2 comprising:

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